Upgradation of Hubli-Bijapur Highway as National Highway

899. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether upgradation of the highway between Hubli and Bijapur to the National Highway standards has begun;

(b) if so, the amount released to Karnataka from the Central Road fund;

(c) whether the State Government has sought another Rs. 10 crores for the above work;

(d) if so, the amount sought for the other works in the State; and

(e) the action if any, taken to release additional amount to the State from the Central Road Fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As this road has been declared as a National Highway, the work on this National Highway is being carried out with budgetary allocations for National Highway works and not under Central Road Fund.

(c) and (d) The funds for National Highway works are not released National Highway-wise but State-wise. An amount of Rs. 104.30 Crore has been allocated during the year 2001-2002 for the Karnataka State, including the additional allocation as requested by the State Government.

(e) Does not arise.

Impact of reforms in SSI Sector

900. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the impact of structural reforms on the Small Scale Industry Sector;

(b) whether small scale sector has suffered due to opening up of the economy;

(c) if not, how;